

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims by replacing all prior versions of the claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 as modified by 68 Fed. Reg. 38611 (June 30, 2003) as follows:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of nucleotide sequence A, ~~B,~~ C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, or M (SEQ ID NOS: 1, and 3-13), respectively, wherein the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and wherein the oligonucleotide is complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

6-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide ~~comprising~~ consisting of nucleotide sequence B (SEQ ID NO:2) ~~A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, or M (SEQ ID NOS: 1-13),~~ respectively, ~~wherein one or more of the oligonucleotide's sugars contain an OMe group at their 2' position wherein~~ the oligonucleotide is conjugated to a peptide and complementary to a bcl-xL-encoding mRNA and inhibits translation thereof.

10-42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide ~~or analog thereof~~ of claim 5 ~~or 9~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the effective amount is between

Applicant: Cy A. Stein et al.
Serial No.: 09/753,169
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Page 3

0.1 μ M and 10 μ M.

44-47. (Canceled)